

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended) A recovery method for use at a layer 2 tunneling protocol (L2TP) sender, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
 sending packets directed to an L2TP peer; and  
  
 5 initiating a recovery process upon detection of ~~receiving~~ a predetermined number of negative acknowledgements being received from the L2TP peer indicative that the L2TP peer is still waiting for a prior transmitted packet.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the multiple messages are negative acknowledgements.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the initiating step includes the step of sending a packet that includes a "Reset  $Sr$ " (*R-bit*) indicator for resetting a next received sequence number,  $Nr$ , value at the L2TP peer.
4. (Currently Amended) A recovery method for use at a layer 2 tunneling protocol (L2TP) sender, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
 receiving a packet from an L2TP peer, the received packet including a next received sequence number,  $Nr$ ; value;  
  
 5 determining if the  $Nr$  value represents a negative acknowledgement; and

initiating a recovery process with the L2TP peer upon ~~receiving~~ determining ~~that~~ a predetermined number of ~~such~~ sequentially received packets are negative acknowledgements.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the recovery process includes the step of sending a packet that includes a "Reset  $Sr$ " (*R-bit*) indicator for resetting a next received sequence number,  $Nr$ , value at the L2TP peer.

6. (Currently Amended) A recovery method for use at a layer 2 tunneling protocol (L2TP) sender, the method comprising the steps of:

sending packets directed to an L2TP peer; and

initiating a recovery process upon either ~~receiving~~ determining that a  
 5 predetermined number of ~~negative~~ acknowledgement[s] packets received from the L2TP peer ~~indicative~~ provide an indication that the L2TP peer is still waiting for a prior transmitted packet, or occurrence of a predetermined payload time-out ~~occurs~~ with respect to the prior transmitted packet.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the multiple messages are negative acknowledgements.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the initiating step includes the step of sending a packet that includes a "Reset  $Sr$ " (*R-bit*) indicator for resetting a next received sequence number,  $Nr$ , value at the L2TP peer.

9. (Currently Amended) A packet interface for use in forming a layer 2 tunneling protocol (L2TP) at an L2TP sender, the packet interface comprising:

a communications interface for sending packets directed to an L2TP peer; and

a processor for initiating a recovery process upon detection of receiving a  
 5 predetermined number of negative acknowledgements being received from the L2TP  
 peer indicative that the L2TP peer is still waiting for a prior transmitted packet.

10. (Original) The packet interface of claim 9 wherein the multiple  
 messages are negative acknowledgements.

11. (Original) The packet interface of claim 9 wherein the processor  
 sends a packet that includes a "Reset *Sr*" (*R-bit*) indicator for resetting a next received  
 sequence number, *Nr*, value at the L2TP peer as part of the initiated recovery process.

12. (Currently Amended) A packet interface for use in forming a layer 2  
 tunneling protocol (L2TP) at an L2TP sender, the packet interface comprising:

a communications interface for receiving a packet from an L2TP peer, the  
 received packet including a next received sequence number, *Nr*; value; and

5 a processor for ~~determining~~ (a) determining if the *Nr* value represents a negative  
 acknowledgement; (b) ~~if a predetermined number of~~ maintaining a count of sequential  
 such negative acknowledgements ~~have~~ having been received, and (c) initiating a  
 recovery process with the L2TP peer upon ~~a determination being made~~ determining that  
 a predetermined number of sequential such negative acknowledgements have been  
 10 received.

13. (Previously Presented) The packet interface of claim 12 wherein  
 the processor sends a packet that includes a "Reset *Sr*" (*R-bit*) indicator for resetting the

next received sequence number,  $Nr$ , value at the L2TP peer as part of the initiated recovery process.